

OCT 5 2007

In the Claims:

03600 MAIL ROOM

Please amend claims 67 and 73 as follows.

C1
67. (Twice Amended) A lock adapted to be received into an opening in a wear member for securing the wear member to a boss fixed to a digging edge of an excavator, said lock comprising opposite front and rear bearing faces wherein the front face presses against the boss and the rear face presses against the wear member to maintain coupling of the wear member to the boss, an adjustment assembly for selectively varying the relative positions of the front and rear bearing faces, and a projection to cooperate with a keeper structure to hold the lock in the opening in the wear member.

C2
73. (Amended) A lock adapted to be received into an opening in a wear member for securing the wear member to a boss fixed to a digging edge of an excavator, said lock comprising opposite front and rear bearing faces wherein the front face is adapted to oppose the boss and the rear face is adapted to oppose the wear member to maintain coupling of the wear member to the boss, an adjustment assembly for selectively varying the relative positions of the front and rear bearing faces, and a projection to cooperate with a keeper structure to hold the lock in the opening in the wear member, and further including a first part with an opening and a second part movably received in the opening, wherein one of the front and rear bearing faces are defined on each of the first and second parts.

Please add new claims 74-118 as follows.

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Sub D1
74. (New) A wear assembly for an excavator having a lip with a digging edge, the wear assembly comprising:

a mount adapted to be fixed to an excavator lip, the mount including a front structure with an inner surface that is bent and fixed along a face of the lip and the front of the digging edge, a rear structure having a first shoulder that extends generally away from the digging edge, and a bearing surface;

a wear member including a second shoulder that engages the first shoulder to hold the wear member to the mount and prevent release of the wear member in a direction perpendicular to the extension of the first shoulder, and an opening; and

a lock received into the opening in the wear member and in contact with the bearing surface of the mount to prevent disconnection of the first and second shoulders and thereby retain the wear member to the mount.

75. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the bearing surface of the mount generally faces rearward to engage the lock, and the mount further includes a front support surface that abuts the wear member to restrict rearward movement of the wear member.

Sub D2
76. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 75 in which the front support surface is arcuate.

Sub D3
77. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the mount is a one-piece member.

78. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the bearing surface of the mount is formed at a rear end of the body structure.

Sub 73
79. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the rear structure has a generally T-shaped coupling structure that includes the first shoulder.

80. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 79 in which the wear member has a generally T-shaped slot that includes the second shoulder, and the T-shaped coupling structure of the mount is received in the slot of the wear member.

Sub 73
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81. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the rear structure of the wear member includes a rearwardly extending leg that substantially overlies the mount, and the front structure wraps around the digging edge to define a second leg.

82. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 81 in which the wear member further includes a forwardly extending working portion.

83. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 82 in which the working portion is a nose for holding an excavating point.

84. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 further including a keeper to retain the lock in the opening.

85. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 84 in which the lock includes a retention portion movable between an operative position and a release position, wherein the retention portion in the operative position sets opposed to the keeper to retain the lock in opening.

Sub 73
86. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the opening in the wear member includes a main portion and a stem portion, wherein

66 ~~the stem portion is narrower than the main portion.~~

87. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 86 in which the stem portion opens in a rear surface of the wear member.

Sub D4 ~~88. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 74 in which the lock includes a first face that abuts the bearing surface of the mount, a second face that abuts a wall of the opening in the wear member, and an adjustment assembly that moves the first and second faces relative to each other to tighten the fit of the lock between the wear member and the mount.~~

89. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 88 in which the lock further includes a main body and a movable plug, wherein one of the first and second faces is defined on each of the body and plug.

90. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 88 in which the adjustment assembly includes a threaded connection.

Sub D5 ~~91. (New) A wear assembly for an excavator having a lip with a digging edge, the wear assembly comprising:~~

~~a mount adapted to be fixed to an excavator lip, the mount including a coupling structure having holding surfaces in opposed relation to the lip of the excavator, a bearing surface, and a front portion that wraps around the digging edge;~~

~~a wear member received over the mount and including retaining members that are received between the holding surfaces and the lip of the excavator to retain the wear member to the mount in directions other than a longitudinal direction, and an opening; and~~

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D5

a lock received into the opening in the wear member and in contact with the bearing surface of the mount to prevent disconnection of the first and second shoulders and thereby retain the wear member to the mount.

92. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the front portion of the mount further includes a front bearing surface that abuts the wear member to restrict movement of the wear member.

93. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 92 in which the front bearing surface is arcuate.

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94. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the mount is a one-piece member.

95. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the holding surfaces are part of a generally T-shaped coupling structure.

96. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 95 in which the wear member has a generally T-shaped slot that receives the T-shaped coupling structure.

97. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the wear member includes a keeper to retain the lock in the opening.

98. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 97 in which the lock includes a retention portion movable between an operative position and a release position, and the retention portion in the operative position sets opposed to the keeper to retain the lock in opening.

99. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the opening in the wear member includes a main portion and a stem portion, wherein

the stem portion is narrower than the main portion.

Sub D7
100. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 91 in which the lock includes a first face that abuts the bearing surface of the mount, a second face that abuts a wall of the opening in the wear member, and an adjustment assembly that moves the first and second faces relative to each other to tighten the fit of the lock between the wear member and the mount.

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101. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 100 in which the lock further includes a main body and a movable plug, wherein one of the first and second faces is defined on each of the body and plug.

102. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 101 in which the plug is threadedly received in the main body.

Sub D8
103. (New) A wear assembly for an excavator having a lip with a digging edge, the wear assembly comprising:

a one-piece boss adapted to be fixed to an excavator lip, the boss including a front portion that wraps around the digging edge and forms a forwardly-facing bearing surface, a coupling structure with first shoulders extending away from the digging edge, and a rearwardly-facing bearing surface;

a wear member received over the boss and including a coupling slot that engages with the coupling structure of the boss to permit only relative longitudinal movement between the wear member and the boss, an abutting surface to engage the forwardly-facing bearing face of the boss to limit rearward movement of the wear member relative to the boss, and an opening passing through the wear member; and

Sub D3
~~a lock received into the opening in the wear member and in contact with the rearwardly-facing bearing surface of the boss and a wall of the opening to prevent disconnection of the engaged slot and coupling structure.~~

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104. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 103 in which the lock includes a first and second bearing surface and an adjustment assembly selectively movable to vary the relative positions of the first and second bearing surfaces to eliminate looseness which may exist in mounting the wear member to the digging edge.

105. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 104 wherein the lock includes an adjustable plug that tightens the engaged of the wear member onto the excavator.

106. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 105 wherein the plug is threadedly received into a corresponding bore in the lock.

107. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 103 in which the opening in the wear member includes a main portion and a stem portion, wherein the stem portion is narrower than the main portion and opens in a rear portion of the wear member.

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108. (new) A wear member for mounting to an excavator having a lip with a digging edge and at least one mounting structure fixed to the lip, the wear member comprising a longitudinal slot with internal shoulders for engaging the mounting structure to permit only relative longitudinal movement between the wear member and the mounting structure, an opening passing through the wear member for receiving a lock to prevent removal of the wear member from the

boss, the opening including a main portion and a stem portion, wherein the stem portion is narrower than the main portion and opens in a rear portion of the wear member.

109. (New) A wear member in accordance with claim 108 which further includes a rearwardly extending leg, a front working portion, and a rearwardly facing bearing surface generally between the front working portion and the leg for abutting the boss.

110. (New) A wear member in accordance with claim 108 which further includes a keeper cooperating with a lock mechanism for holding the lock in the opening.

111. (New) A one-piece boss for fixing to an excavator lip for mounting a wear member thereto, the boss including a body defining a coupling structure with shoulders extending rearwardly from the digging edge to engage with a complementary structure of a wear member, a front portion with an inner surface that is bent and adapted to be fixed along a face of the lip and the front of the digging edge, a forwardly facing first bearing surface to abut the wear member and resist rearwardly directed forces, and a rearwardly facing second bearing surface for contacting a lock securing the wear member to the boss.

112. (New) A boss in accordance with claim 111 in which the first bearing surface is arcuate.

113. (New) A boss in accordance with claim 111 in which the front portion wraps around the digging edge to define a leg opposite the body.

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114. (New) A mount for fixing to an excavator lip for mounting a wear member thereto, the mount including a rear structure adapted to mount along a first side of the lip, the rear structure including a coupling structure with shoulders extending rearwardly from the digging edge to engage a complementary structure of a wear member and a rearwardly facing bearing face adapted to engage a lock holding the wear member to the mount, and a front structure adapted to engage an opposite side of the lip and the front of the digging edge, the front structure including at least one bearing surface adapted to abut the wear member and resist unwanted movement of the wear member relative to the mount.

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115. (New) A wear assembly for an excavator having a lip with a digging edge, the wear assembly comprising:

a mount adapted to be fixed to an excavator lip, the mount including a first shoulder spaced from the lip and a first bearing surface;

a wear member including a second shoulder that engages the first shoulder between the first shoulder and the lip to hold the wear member to the mount and prevent release of the wear member from the mount in a direction generally perpendicular to the lip, and an opening equipped with a second bearing surface, wherein the first and second bearing surfaces face in opposite directions when the first and second shoulders are engaged; and

a lock received into the opening in the wear member between the first and second bearing surfaces to prevent disconnection of the first and second shoulders from each other and thereby retain the wear member on the mount,

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Sub D1
the lock having a first lock surface to oppose the first bearing surface, a second lock surface to oppose the second bearing surface, and an adjustment assembly selectively movable to vary the relative positions of the first and second bearing surfaces to thereby apply forces to the wear member and the mount that tend to tighten the mounting of the wear member on the mount.

116. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 115 wherein the mount includes a front structure that wraps around the digging edge of the lip

117. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 115 wherein the lock includes a first part with an opening and a second part movably received in the opening, wherein one of the first and second bearing faces are defined on each of the first and second parts

118. (New) A wear assembly in accordance with claim 115 in which the lock includes a body with one wall that defines the first face and a threaded bore, and a threaded member threaded into the threaded bore, wherein the threaded member includes a wall that defines the second face.

REMARKS

Please enter the above amendment to the claims prior to substantive examination of the reissue application following the filing of the Request for Continued Examination.

The original patent claims 1-54 remain pending and unchanged. Claims 55-73 added previously remain pending with claims 67 and 73 amended. New claims 74-118 have been newly added, and are thus pending.

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